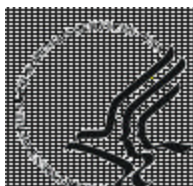


BUILDING

Partnerships for Access

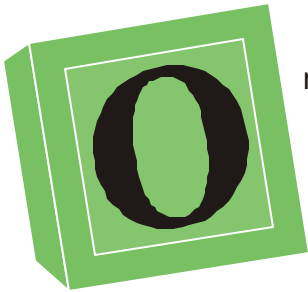


To Health Care And Services
For Persons Who Are Homeless



September 7 - 8, 2000  **Washington, DC**

Exploring Strategies to Improve Access to Health Care and Services for Persons Who Are Homeless



On September 7 - 8, 2000, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will host a national conference to discuss strategies to improve access to health care and services - including mental health and substance abuse services - for families and individuals who are homeless. We invite you to attend this unique meeting so that you can do your part in ***Building Partnerships for Access***.

Through nearly two decades of work with families and individuals who are homeless, we have learned that effective services are available, that persons who are homeless will use them, and that nearly every one of these services can be supported by traditional mainstream insurance, entitlement, and assistance programs funded by DHHS. However, we also know that providing services to families and individuals who are homeless requires partnership at the Federal, State, and community level. To pursue the goal of ensuring that persons who are homeless have access to services, we have formed a unique partnership of DHHS agencies to sponsor this meeting. The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) have come together to kick-off the first in a series of activities aimed at ***Building Partnerships for Access***

At this national meeting, you will have an opportunity to share your insights as well as to hear the perspectives of others. This informed discussion will assist the Department in developing comprehensive, long-term strategies to expand access to programs that provide health care and other services for persons who are homeless. Additionally, this conference will lay the foundation for future training on partnership building that we will be conducting at the Regional level. The first day of the conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a welcome from Dr. Marsha Martin, the Secretary's Special Assistant on Homelessness. A draft agenda is attached for your review.

Please review the attached material and attend this important event. The next steps that DHHS takes to addressing the issue of homelessness within the Department will be determined by the input from this conference. Your participation and support are vital to our success.

urpose

This conference is being convened to obtain information directly from State, Tribal, local, provider, and beneficiary representatives on how to improve access to health care services for persons without a home. This is in keeping with the Department's responsibility to provide access to quality health care and support for poor and at-risk individuals. For the purpose of this conference, our focus will be on the use of DHHS' most broad reaching resources, e.g. Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP), Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grants (SAPT), Ryan White Funding, and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grants. The information will assist the Department in developing comprehensive, long-term strategies to expand access to programs that provide health care services for persons who are homeless. Participants will help DHHS **identify obstacles and potential solutions** that the Department's strategy must address. The meeting will also be **an opportunity for building effective Federal, State, and community partnerships** that will serve as one of the foundations for our future efforts in this area.

ederal Partners

This conference is jointly planned by:

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

ho Should Attend

Participants in this conference should be *influential in the decision-making infrastructure of their agencies*, be in a position to take the information and lessons learned back to others in their State and community, and have an interest in committing resources and to follow up activities. We are expecting attendance by multiple representatives from each State, with the goal of partnerships for the future. Please share this information with others you believe are potential partners in this effort. The target audience includes:

- State Medicaid Directors
- State Children's Health Insurance Program Directors
- State TANF Directors
- Single State Agency Directors and Contacts for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- State Mental Health Directors and Block Grant Planners
- State-Level Health Program Administrators for Ryan White, Maternal & Child Health, etc.
- Tribal Representatives
- Individuals Who Are Homeless or Formerly Homeless
- Beneficiary Advocacy Representatives
- Health Care Providers
- Managed Care Organization Directors
- Federal Representatives



At the Conference You Will...

- learn about health service needs of persons who are homeless and effective responses by health delivery systems;
- learn more about the types of health care services, supports, and resources that are available through DHHS' major programs (e.g., Medicaid, SCHIP, SAPT, TANF block grants, and Ryan White Funding);
- have an opportunity to participate in discussions with individuals who have a variety of perspectives, including firsthand experiences, to identify obstacles to accessing health care;
- have an opportunity to suggest solutions for overcoming barriers and to hear suggestions from those with other perspectives;
- hear what Federal, State, and local organizations are doing to provide access to health care resources for persons who are homeless and
- have an opportunity to form Federal, State, and local partnerships.



Information Exchange

There will be an "Information Exchange" table available at the conference so that you can share information you have developed on serving people who are homeless, and so that you can take material that has been developed by your colleagues. Please contact Pat Height at 301/270-0841, ext. 220, to obtain information on where to send materials prior to the meeting.



How Should I Prepare?

To benefit from the conference, we ask that you take a few minutes to consider how the work you do can help provide better access to health care and services for individuals who are homeless. You should think about what types of barriers might be in the way of using resources, possible ways that these barriers can be overcome, and what information or resources you need to help provide better access to health care and services for persons who are homeless. Jot down notes to bring with you so you can participate in the lively discussion sessions that are planned. Also, since we stand the greatest chance of providing access through partnership at the Federal, State, and community level, invite existing or potential partners in this effort to attend the conference with you. Be prepared to discuss what role you could play in **BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR ACCESS.**

Conference Registration Information

There is **no registration fee** for this conference as your participation is considered essential for the success of the conference, as well as the Department's access initiative. To register for the conference, by August 18, 2000, complete the attached registration form and fax or mail to Pat Height, AFYA, Inc. 6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 1000, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or phone (301) 270-0841, ext. 220 or fax (301) 270-4186. When your registration is processed, an e-mail confirmation will be sent to you, so it is essential to include your e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail address, please be sure to indicate your fax number or address so that we can send you a confirmation. Please include any needed special accommodations on the registration form.



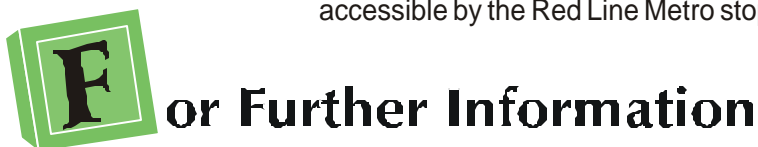
September 7 - 8, 2000



Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert Street, NW
Washington, DC
(202) 234-0700



The conference will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. Eighty (80) sleeping rooms have been blocked at the hotel. Individuals are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and for payment of their hotel bill upon check-out. To make a reservation, contact the hotel directly and reference the "Partnerships for Access" group name to receive the discounted room rate of \$118 for single occupancy, plus tax and \$138 for double occupancy, plus tax. To guarantee your reservation, you will need to provide the hotel with a credit card number. *Please note that the deadline for making your hotel reservation is August 18, 2000.* Hotel reservations made after this deadline are subject to rate change and/or availability. The Omni Shoreham is accessible by the Red Line Metro stop Woodley-Park Zoo.



Further information concerning the conference can be obtained by calling Pat Height, AFYA, Inc. at 301/270-0841 ext. 220 or e-mailing at pheight@afyainc.com. AFYA, Inc. has been contracted by the sponsors to handle the logistical aspects of the meeting.

Building Partnerships for Access

Exploring Strategies to Improve Access to Health Care and Services to Persons who are Homeless

September 7 - 8, 2000

DAY ONE

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM **Registration**

7:00 AM **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM **Welcome**

From Main Street to Mainstream: The Importance of Mainstream DHHS Programs in Addressing Homelessness

Dr. Marsha Martin - Special Assistant to the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM **Putting a Face on Homelessness**

Panel discussion by persons who have been previously homeless.

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM **What We Know About Homelessness**

• *What is known about treatment and support needs of homeless families and individual*

• *The hidden service costs of homelessness*

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Break**

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM **DHHS Mainstream Programs - An Illustrative Tour of Programs**

Examples of availability and applicability of DHHS Mainstream Resources to Serve Persons Who Are Homeless.

• *Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)*

• *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grants*

• *Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grants (SAPT)*

• *Ryan White funding*

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM **Break Out Overview and Charge To The Group**

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM **Lunch** *(on your own)*



1:45 PM - 3:30 PM

Break Out Session I

Improving Access Through Outreach and Enrollment

Participants will discuss the following questions for each topic:

- *What are the barriers to access?*
- *What are some solutions and exemplary practices?*
- *What are the opportunities for partnership?*
- *What could you do to improve the current situation?*
- *How could we monitor and assess our progress?*

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Break/Change Rooms to Attend a New Discussion Topic

3:45 PM - 5:30 PM

Break Out Session II

How Variations in Eligibility and Program Administration Affect Access

Participants will discuss the following questions for each topic:

- *What are the barriers to access?*
- *What are some solutions and exemplary practices?*
- *What are the opportunities for partnership?*
- *What could you do to improve the current situation?*
- *How could we monitor and assess our progress?*

DAY TWO

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Registration

8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Recommendations from Break Out Sessions

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Accessing Mainstream Programs - Exemplary Practices

Panel discussion of such topics as outreach practices, adaptations of services, cultural competency, and in-service training.

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Partnerships for Access - Exemplary Practices

Panel discussion of such topics as strategies for coordination, funding issues, and managed care approaches.

11:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Next Steps

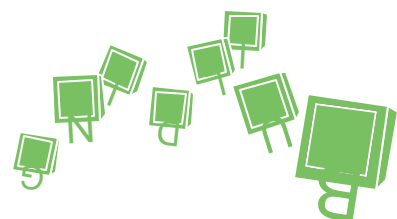
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Coming Attraction: Building Partnerships

Preview of regional training sessions on partnerships to be held in 2001.

12:45 PM - 1:00 PM

Closing





Building Partnerships For Access

*Exploring Strategies To Improve Access To Health Care And Services
For Persons Who Are Homeless*

The Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC
September 7 - 8, 2000
(202) 234-0700

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please Print or Type)

Name (Last, First, MI): _____

Title: _____

Agency/Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone Number: (____) _____ Fax Number: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Special Needs: _____

Information Exchange

There will be an "Information Exchange" table available at the conference so that you can share information you have developed on serving people who are homeless, and so that you can take material that has been developed by your colleagues.

☐ I will bring material

☐ I will be bringing a display

If you have any questions or need information on where to send material in advance of the meeting, please contact Pat Height at (301) 270-0841 ext. 220 or e-mail at pheight@afyainc.com.

Forward the completed form to: **AFYA, Inc.**

6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 1000
Takoma Park, MD 20912
Fax (301) 270-4186

